



1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Voting is the language of democracy and has proven
3 to be one of the most effective tools in the ongoing battle
4 against racism in our nation; and

5 WHEREAS, In 1965, the Voting Rights Act was passed by
6 Congress to protect every American against racial
7 discrimination in voting; and

8 WHEREAS, The Voting Rights Act was created to ensure that
9 every person's vote is equal and that race should never shut
10 any person out of the political process; and

11 WHEREAS, The Voting Rights Act of 1965 made specific
12 provisions to mitigate against extraordinary racial
13 discrimination in voting rights; and

14 WHEREAS, These provisions applied to certain areas of the
15 nation for a limited period of time; these certain areas
16 included several jurisdictions where voting irregularities
17 took place during recent elections; and

18 WHEREAS, Racial discrimination in voting thus continues to
19 be a problem today; and

20 WHEREAS, These provisions of the Voting Rights Act that
21 provide safeguards against racial discrimination in voting
22 will expire in 2007, unless Congress reauthorizes these
23 provisions; therefore, be it

24 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
25 NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
26 we urge Congress to reauthorize all provisions in the Voting
27 Rights Act of 1965 that are scheduled to expire in 2007 and to
28 amend those provisions to make those provisions permanent; and

1 be it further

2 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
3 delivered to the President pro tempore of the U.S. Senate, the
4 Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, and each member
5 of the Illinois congressional delegation.